

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**PAGE 2**

Serial No.: 09/919,006

Filing Date: 7/31/2001

Attorney Docket No. 100.216US01

Title: CLAMPING RECEPTACLE

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A receptacle for confining circuit cards to different locations within a housing, the receptacle comprising:
 - a frame comprising an array of slots, the frame being thermally coupled to the housing,
 - each slot containing one of the circuit cards; and
 - a cam selectively engageable with the frame for clamping the circuit cards within-the frame and thermally coupling the circuit cards to the frame.
2. (Original) The receptacle of claim 1, wherein the frame is partitioned into first and second sub-frames by a first partition and each of the first and second sub-frames partitioned into an array of slots by a plurality of second partitions.
3. (Original) The receptacle of claim 2, wherein the first sub-frame is movable relative to the second sub-frame and is in slidable contact with the receptacle.
4. (Original) The receptacle of claim 3, wherein the first partition is in slidable contact with the receptacle.
5. (Original) The receptacle of claim 4, wherein the cam is engageable with the first sub-frame for sliding the first sub-frame so that circuit cards that are in the first sub-frame contact the first partition and sliding the first partition into contact with the circuit cards of the second sub-frame to clamp the circuit cards contained in the slots of the first sub-frame between

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the first sub-frame and the first partition and the circuit cards contained in the slots of the second sub-frame between the first partition and the second sub-frame.

6. (Original) The receptacle of claim 1, wherein the cam is selected from the group consisting of a pair of cams in tandem, a pair of cams, and two tandem pairs of cams.

7. (Original) The receptacle of claim 1, wherein the cam is disposed within the receptacle.

8. (Original) The receptacle of claim 1, wherein the cam is rotatably attached to the receptacle.

9. (Original) The receptacle of claim 1, wherein the cam is disposed on a shaft that rotates the cam into and out of engagement with the frame.

10. (Original) The receptacle of claim 1, wherein the cam comprises a curved surface comprising serrations.

11. (Original) The receptacle of claim 1, wherein the frame comprises a pair of frames, the cam attached to one of the pair of frames and selectively engagable with the other of the pair of frames for clamping the circuit cards within each of the pair of frames.

12. (Currently Amended) A receptacle for confining circuit cards to different locations within a housing, the receptacle comprising:

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at least one frame partitioned into first and second sub-frames by a first partition, each of the first and second sub-frames partitioned into an array of slots by a plurality of second partitions, each slot containing one of the circuit cards, the at least one frame being thermally coupled to the housing; and

at least one cam selectively engageable with the first sub-frame to clamp the circuit cards within the at least one frame, wherein the circuit cards are further thermally coupled to the at least one frame when the at least one cam is engaged with the first sub-frame.

13. (Original) The receptacle of claim 12, wherein the at least one cam is selected from the group consisting of a pair of cams in tandem, a pair of cams, and two tandem pairs of cams.

14. (Original) The receptacle of claim 12, wherein the at least one cam is disposed within the receptacle.

15. (Original) The receptacle of claim 12, wherein the at least one cam is rotatably attached to the receptacle.

16. (Original) The receptacle of claim 12, wherein the at least one cam is disposed on a shaft that rotates the at least one cam into and out of engagement with the first sub-frame.

17. (Original) The receptacle of claim 12, wherein the at least one cam comprises a curved surface comprising serrations.

18. (Original) The receptacle of claim 12, wherein the first sub-frame is movable relative to the second sub-frame and is in slidable contact with the receptacle.

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19. (Original) The receptacle of claim 18, wherein the first partition is in slidable contact with the receptacle.

20. (Original) The receptacle of claim 19, wherein the at least one cam is engageable with the first sub-frame for sliding the first sub-frame so that circuit cards that are in the first sub-frame contact the first partition and sliding the first partition into contact with the circuit cards of the second sub-frame to clamp the circuit cards contained in the slots of the first sub-frame between the first sub-frame and the first partition and the circuit cards contained in the slots of the second sub-frame between the first partition and the second sub-frame.

21. (Currently amended) A receptacle for confining circuit cards to different locations within a housing, the receptacle comprising:

at least one frame thermally coupled to the housing partitioned into first and second sub-frames by a first partition, each of the first and second sub-frames partitioned into an array of slots by a plurality of second partitions, each slot containing one of the circuit cards;

wherein the first sub-frame is movable relative to the second sub-frame and is in slidable contact with the receptacle;

wherein the first partition is in slidable contact with the receptacle; and

at least one cam disposed within the receptacle and rotatably attached to the receptacle, the at least one cam selectively rotatable for selectively engaging the first sub-frame for sliding the first sub-frame so that circuit cards of the first sub-frame contact the first partition and sliding the first partition into contact with the circuit cards of the second sub-frame to clamp the circuit cards contained in the slots of the first sub-frame between the first sub-frame and the first partition and the circuit cards contained in the

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slots of the second sub-frame between the first partition and the second sub-frame[.],
wherein the circuit cards are thermally coupled to the frame when the at least one cam is engaged to the first sub-frame.

22. (Original) The receptacle of claim 21, wherein the at least one cam is selected from the group consisting of a pair of cams in tandem, a pair of cams, and two tandem pairs of cams.

23. (Original) The receptacle of claim 21, wherein the at least one cam is disposed on a shaft that rotates the at least one cam into and out of engagement with the first sub-frame.

24. (Currently Amended) A receptacle for confining circuit cards to different locations within a housing, the receptacle comprising:

first and second frames thermally coupled to the housing, each of the first and second frames partitioned into first and second sub-frames by a first partition, each of the first and second sub-frames partitioned into an array of slots by a plurality of second partitions, each slot containing one of the circuit cards; and

at least one cam disposed between the first and second frames, the at least one cam rotatably attached to the first frame and adapted to engage the second frame to exert a force on each of the first and second frames for clamping the circuit cards within the first and second frames and thermally coupling the circuit cards to the first and second frames.

25. (Original) The receptacle of claim 24, wherein the at least one cam is selected from the group consisting of a pair of cams in tandem, a pair of cams, and two tandem pairs of cams.

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26. (Original) The receptacle of claim 24, wherein the at least one cam is disposed on a shaft that is rotatably attached to the first frame, the shaft rotating the at least one cam into and out of engagement with the second frame.

27. (Original) The receptacle of claim 24, wherein the at least one cam comprises a curved surface comprising serrations.

28. (Original) The receptacle of claim 24, wherein the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames is movable relative to the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames and is in slidable contact with the receptacle.

29. (Original) The receptacle of claim 28, wherein the first partition of each of the first and second frames is in slidable contact with the receptacle.

30. (Currently amended) The receptacle of claim 29, A receptacle for confining circuit cards to different locations within a housing, the receptacle comprising:

first and second frames, each of the first and second frames partitioned into first and second sub-frames by a first partition, each of the first and second sub-frames partitioned into an array of slots by a plurality of second partitions, each slot containing one of the circuit cards;

at least one cam disposed between the first and second frames, the at least one cam rotatably attached to the first frame and adapted to engage the second frame to exert a force on each of the first and second frames for clamping the circuit cards within the first and second frames;

wherein the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames is movable relative to the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames and is in slidable contact with the receptacle;

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wherein the first partition of each of the first and second frames is in slidable contact with the receptacle; and

wherein the force exerted on the first and second frames slides the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames so that circuit cards of the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames contact the first partition of each of the first and second frames and slides the first partition of each of the first and second frames into contact with the circuit cards of the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames to clamp the circuit cards contained in the slots of the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames between the first sub-frame and the first partition of each of the first and second frames and the circuit cards contained in the slots of the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames between the first partition and the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames.

31. (Original) The receptacle of claim 24, wherein the receptacle is thermally coupled to the housing.

32. (Currently Amended) A receptacle for confining circuit cards to different locations within a housing, the receptacle comprising:

first and second frames thermally coupled to the housing, each of the first and second frames partitioned into first and second sub-frames by a first partition, each of the first and second sub-frames partitioned into an array of slots by a plurality of second partitions, each slot containing one of the circuit cards;

wherein the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames is movable relative to the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames and is in slidable contact with the receptacle;

wherein the first partition of each of the first and second frames is in slidable contact with the receptacle; and

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at least one cam disposed between the first and second frames, the at least one cam rotatably attached to the first sub-frame of the first frame and is selectively rotatable for engaging the first sub-frame of the second frame to exert a force on the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames to slide the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames so that circuit cards of the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames contact the first partition of each of the first and second frames and to slide the first partition of each of the first and second frames into contact with the circuit cards of the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames to clamp the circuit cards contained in the slots of the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames between the first sub-frame and the first partition of each of the first and second frames and the circuit cards contained in the slots of the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames between the first partition and the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames[.],wherein the circuit cards are thermally coupled to the first and second frames respectfully when the at least one cam is engaged with the first sub-frame.

33. (Original) The receptacle of claim 32, wherein the at least one cam is selected from the group consisting of a pair of cams in tandem, a pair of cams, and two tandem pairs of cams.

34. (Original) The receptacle of claim 32, wherein the at least one cam is disposed on a shaft that is rotatably attached to the first sub-frame of the first frame, the shaft rotating the at least one cam into and out of engagement with the first sub-frame of the second frame.

35. (Original) The receptacle of claim 32, wherein the receptacle is thermally coupled to the housing.

Claims 36-106 (Cancelled)

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107. (Previously presented) A receptacle for confining circuit boards, the receptacle comprising:

at least one frame thermally coupled to the housing, each frame having at least one adjustable slot, wherein the at least one adjustable slot is adapted to receive a circuit card;

at least one cam adapted to selectively apply force on the frame to adjust the size of the slot, wherein when the at least one cam applies a force on the frame, the size of the at least one adjustable slot is reduced to clamp a circuit card therein and thermally couple the circuit card to the frame.

108. (Previously presented) The receptacle of claim 107, wherein the at least one frame further comprises:

two or more sub-frames, and

sliding partitions separating the two or more sub-frames.

109. (Previously presented) The receptacle of claim 107, wherein the at least one frame includes a first and second frame;

the first and second frames being received in the receptacle approximate each other; and

the at least one cam coupled to the first frame.

110. (Previously presented) The receptacle of claim 107, further comprising:

the at least one cam selectively engaging the second frame.